# scan

SHANKILL COMMUNITY AREA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER '26

# Shankill & Ballybrack
## Community First Reaponders

## CELEBRATING 10 YEARS SERVING THE COMMUNITY

## CONTACT scan

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** If you have any comments on any article or wish to contact us our details are:

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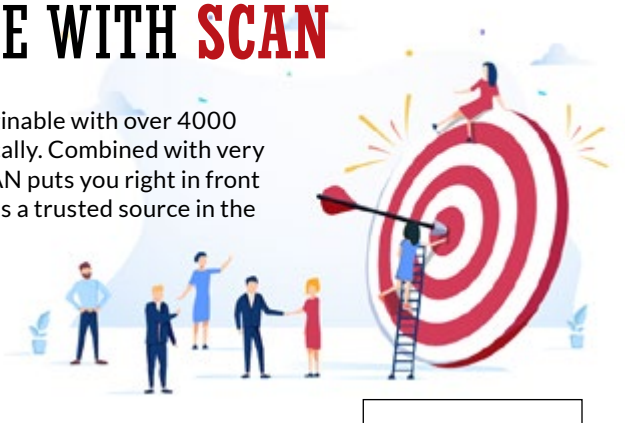

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# COMMUNITY BULLETIN

## ◆ A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Trusting our readers will enjoy this October issue of Scan. If your interest is sport, politics, nature, history, saving lives, preparing for the winter or if you need either emotional or practical support then there is something of interest to you in this issue.

We would like to acknowledge the help of Eva Lisa MacGinley, a student of English Studies and History (Joint Honours) at Tinity College, in assisting with the editing of Scan. Her help is very much appreciated and we hope the experience will be of benefit to Eva in her studies.

### SINCERE CONDOLENCES

*We would like to extend our sincere condolences to Cormac Devlin, T.D., on the recent passing of his mother, Ann T. Devlin.*

*May she rest in peace.*

## ◆ SVP SHANKILL CONFERENCE

Do you need our help?

You can call us directly at **087 696 2785**. Alternately, call 01 855 0022 or go online at *www.svp.ie.*

## ◆ LISTENING EAR - SUPPORT NETWORK FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED PEOPLE

The Network is open to persons of any faith and none. Meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 7.30 - 9p.m. in the Resource Centre.

You are welcome to contact **087 364 6067** or email *listeningear14@gmail.com* and a supportive compassionate person in the network will respond and together you can discuss how we can be of help to you.

Complete confidentiality is guaranteed and everyone will be warm and friendly.

## ◆ BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

***St. Anne's Resource Centre, Shankill.***

If you are grieving the loss of someone special or have had a loss of any kind and would like to talk to someone, Bethany Bereavement offer free support to adults, with sympathy and compassion in confidence.

We have a drop-in service on the first Friday of each month at 10.30 am or if you prefer, we can meet with you in person. Just call the **01 282 2704** to arrange.

## ◆ AA MEETINGS SHANKILL

Alcoholics Anonymous hosts meetings in Crinken Church Parish Hall every Monday at 8.30 p.m. and in St. Anne's Community Centre (beside St. Anne's Church) every Sunday at 8.30 pm. Doors open around 8.15 pm.

A welcome awaits you.

## ◆ BOOK SALE - SHANKILL SENIORS CENTRE

The next book sale will be held on Saturday 3rd of October and the following on Saturday 7th of November.

**Venue:** Shankill Seniors Centre, Lower Road, Shankill D18 HW95
**Time:** 10am-1pm.

Donations of books in good condition are welcome on the day of sale. Due to major storage issues these are limited to one small bag per person. Your co-operation in this matter is much appreciated.

All proceeds go to support the Centre's programmes and services.

## ◆ SHANKILL CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB

Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th of October and the following one on Wednesday 11th of November.
**Venue:** Shankill Seniors Centre, Lower Road, Shankill D18 HW95
**Time:** 7.45 p.m.

Come along and enjoy some lovely music and a cuppa and chat.

## ◆ 2026 HSE ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

- 7th October: **Connecting Clients with Local Community Based Activities** by *Lisa Sieger, Southside Partnership, Social Prescribing and Wellbeing Project Leader*
- 4th November: **Understanding the Fair Deal Process** by *Nursing Department, Shankill Health Centre*
- 2nd December: **Getting Younger with Exercise** by *Physiotherapy Department, Shankill Health Centre*

**Time:** 12:00 to 13:00
**Location:** Shankill Health Centre, Group Room, Lower Road, Shankill

## ◆ TRAFFIC THROUGH SHANKILL

***Mr. Pat Igoe and DLR***

In the September edition of the SCAN, an open letter, sent by Mr. Pat Igoe to the Chief Executive of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, was published in Scan. The contents regarded what Mr. Igoe deemed to be unsafe traffic flow through Shankill Village, and contained a request for a pedestrian crossing to be provided towards the Quinn's Road end of the village. Mr. Igoe has since received a response from the Council acknowledging the concerns of Shankill residents regarding the increased traffic flow through Shankill Village and the difficulties this has created for pedestrians crossing the Main Street.

The response details the Council's background work in the preliminary stages of implementing Mr. Igoe's suggestion—including the completion of a topographical survey of the location; the commission of a traffic volume survey; and the acquisition of a quotation from a third party consultant, who would undertake the design work for the project.

Further, the Council have liaised with the National Transport Authority (NTA), who believe the proposal to be advantageous. The letter claims the project is now progressing into the design stage. Importantly, the Council states that all funds have been allocated for the Council's 2026 programme and that these developments will therefore take place as a part of the 2027 programme.

Mr. Igoe continued the discussion, expressing displeasure with the lack of urgency displayed by the Council and disagreed with the location proposed and implored them to expedite the process of installation. No further response has been received from the Council. It appears that any plan to install a pedestrian crossing on Shankill Mainstreet will not be completed until 2027.

## ◆ SOUTH SHANKILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

South Shankill Residents enjoying the **SSRA** annual street parties in **Foxes Grove, Cherrington & Shanganagh Grove.**
It was a nice opportunity to get together, share food and stories and get to know each other a little better!

Citizens Information

## BE PREPARED FOR WINTER WEATHER

With warnings coming our way about the effect El Niño may have on our weather this winter, it might be helpful to make any preparations we can to keep ourselves warm and safe this winter–so here are a few suggestions *(more detailed information can be found on the Government Website):*

**In the Home**
Have a small supply of non-perishable, easy-to-prepare foods in the store cupboard. Keep extra supplies of essential medication in case it is difficult to get to the pharmacy. Have an adequate supply of fuel for heating/cooking and if possible, a suitable alternative in case the main supply should fail. Have a shovel and bag of salt handy to keep paths clear and safe. Have batteries for torches handy in the event of power cuts. Keep a supply of candles and matches where they can easily be located when needed. Note that candles should always be placed away from draughts in proper candleholders.

**Never leave a burning candle unattended**
Have a water container handy to ensure a supply of drinking water. Have emergency contact numbers to hand. Leave a key and contact details with neighbours or family if you are going away. Check that loft insulation is thick and in good condition. Fit your water tank with an insulation jacket or alternatively, wrap the top and sides with suitable insulation material. Repair any leaks at taps or valves. Know how to turn off the water supply (usually under the kitchen sink). Fit draught excluders to your doors and windows. Make sure heating equipment is well-maintained, vented correctly and working properly. Ensure chimneys are cleaned at least once a year.

**Be Prepared - avoid frozen pipes**
Ensure all exposed pipes are adequately insulated. This includes pipes in the attic where the attic floor has been well insulated; Insulate or wrap a towel around an outside tap. Leave a light on in the attic if possible. Open attic trap door to allow heat in. Leave heating on for longer periods at lower settings. Warmth offers the best protection against frozen pipes so keep your house warm. If your water supply is frozen, be cautious with use of heating systems, washing machines or other water-dependent appliances or facilities. If in doubt, contact a qualified plumber for advice.

**Clearing snow from footpaths**
Clearing snow can be demanding work–only undertake the task if you are reasonably fit and do not have an underlying medical condition OR ask someone to help you. Clear snow or ice early in the day if possible. Wear sturdy, insulated, waterproof footwear with good gripping soles. Use a shovel. There are special shovels for this task but any garden shovel will do. Make a path down the middle of the area being cleared so that you will have a clear surface to walk on. Never use boiling water to clear snow (it may re-freeze and cause the formation of black ice). You can prevent ice forming by spreading salt on the area that you have cleared. When you are clearing snow, it is important that you don't create an obstacle for pedestrians or traffic. Ensure that the snow is removed to a location that won't create a hazard.

**Legal Advice for Snow Clearance**
The Office of the Attorney General has advised that liability does not arise when snow is cleared from footpaths in a safe manner. (Source: www.citizensinformation.ie and www.winterready.ie)

**Health Advice - keeping well and warm**
Everyone, especially older or more vulnerable people, should remember to take extra care during a cold spell. Elderly people should not venture outdoors in severe weather if possible. The public are asked to make a special effort to keep in contact with their neighbours and relatives, particularly those living alone. Remember: Keep warm, eat well and avoid unnecessary travel. Call on elderly relatives and neighbours and ensure they have sufficient supplies of food and of any prescription drugs they may need. Ensure that older people have sufficient fuel supplies to maintain adequate heating in their homes.

Weather forecasts and alerts are issued by Met Éireann and are available across television, radio and online, including on RTÉ, local and independent radio stations.

In a major emergency, warnings and advice may be issued through national media to tell you what to do. These messages are usually broadcast on national radio and television. As power may not be available, it's important to keep a battery-operated radio and to listen to public service and national radio stations. (Source: www.gov.ie and www.citizensinformation.ie)

*Call in to the Citizens Information Centre at Marina House, Clarence Street, Dun Laoghaire at any time between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday. No appointment necessary. Clarence Street is the turning to the right at the traffic lights at the junction of Lower Georges Street, Cumberland Street and York Road, Dun Laoghaire. Citizens Information offers a Free, Confidential and Impartial Service to the citizens of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown on a very wide range of issues. Or Phone them at: 0761 07 7400.*

***NOTE: MABS** (Money Advice and Budgeting Service) are located in the same building. Private appointments with MABS can be made by phoning: 0761 07 2530*

# CASTLE ALLOTMENTS

*by Pat McCann*

It has been a busy time over the past few weeks and months at the Castle Allotments of Quinn's Road in Shankill. There are 95 separate allotments and an additional nine raised beds, all operated under the auspices of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Parks Department–where individual plot holders have a permit agreement with the Council which ensures compliance with general conditions of use.

Castle Allotments have been in operation since 2014 firstly on the grounds of Shanganagh Castle before moving to its current location in 2018, as the previous site was used for the construction of much needed housing in the area. It is a vibrant community of individuals and families all engaged in the cultivation of fruit, vegetables or flowers for their own personal use and enjoyment. It is an opportunity for people to spend time outdoors so they can see how their efforts result in fresh produce, share growing tips, help and suggestions with fellow plot holders.

Over the years, it has been the practice in Castle Allotments to recognise the efforts made by plot holders on their individual allotment, or in the communal areas in the Castle Allotments site. This year was no different. Further evidence of how well the Allotments looked was underpinned by the fact that it was a difficult task this year to select those worthy of recognition with many potential candidates. Having said that, here are the details of those who were chosen. Each received a voucher for nearby Windyridge Garden Centre that they can use to further enhance their gardens/plots.

**PARAIC AND MAUREEN CORBETT**

For overall improvement to the public areas. They have created flower beds either side of the pedestrian gate, providing lots of flowers for pollinators.

**GAY AND SAL STAPLETON**

For Best Newcomer. They have turned a plot of weeds into a productive plot in a short time. Also, very tidy gardeners.

**MICHAEL AND BERNIE LAWLOR**

For best kept plot. Overall presentation, neatness, proper crop maintenance and weed free. Great tomatoes.

**LUDMILA ZEMCOVA**

For most varied plot. Great selection of vegetables and flowers. Stones from initial digging incorporated as a bank across the front of the plot. Looks well. The flower bed was humming with bees and butterflies were fluttering about.

**JOHN AND JIM MONAGHAN**

For continuous improvement. This plot gets better every year. Was full of docks, nettles, ragwort, horsetails and other weeds. Now full of veg and fruit.

As you can see from the pictures these together with all of the other Allotments add to the general biodiversity of the area in addition to providing a valuable and much loved activity for those involved albeit hard earned through the efforts made in propagating; planting; weeding and ongoing maintenance of their individual allotments.

# TREE OF THE MONTH

*by Maria Jose*

The Tree of the Month series highlights key facts and fascinating information about the remarkable trees along the Shankill Tree Trail. This circular route around Shankill village features twenty-five notable trees, each with its own story and significance. The trail begins at the Corbawn Lane entrance to Shankill DART Station, where the Ash tree is the first stop on the route.

**ASH**

The ash tree — Fraxinus excelsior — is native to Ireland and is one of the most widespread trees in our landscape. You'll often find this deciduous tree growing in hedgerows, along riverbanks, on farmland, or in mixed woodlands. In Irish, it is known as Fuinseog.

This particular ash tree is still relatively young and modest in size. Given good conditions, an ash can live for two to three hundred years, sometimes reaching a height of over thirty-five metres.

How do we recognise an ash tree? When it is in leaf, it can be identified by its compound leaves. A compound leaf is made up of smaller leaflets arranged in pairs along a central stem. In winter, after the leaves have fallen, look for the distinctive winged seeds — often called "keys" — which hang in clusters from the branches.

Ash trees have an open, airy canopy that allows sunlight to filter down to the woodland floor. This dappled light supports the growth of wildflowers such as bluebells, dog violet, and wild garlic. Interestingly, ash is often one of the last trees to come into leaf in spring, and one of the first to shed its leaves in autumn.

Sadly, since 2012, ash trees in Ireland have faced a serious threat from ash dieback disease. This has led to a significant decline in their numbers, making mature, healthy ash trees increasingly rare and precious.

Among Ireland's most remarkable specimens is the tallest ash tree, standing at around forty metres in the grounds of Marlfield House in County Tipperary. The oldest, known as the Ballynatray Ash in County Cork, is estimated to be around four hundred years old.

Traditionally, ash wood was highly valued for its strength and flexibility. If you are familiar with the game of hurling, you will know that hurleys are made from the wood of the ash tree. Tool handles, cart wheels, and farming implements were also crafted from this resilient timber.

In Irish folklore, the ash was regarded as a protective and sacred tree, associated with healing, strength, and balance.
I just wanted to share some photos from the recent street party that happened on Shrewsbury Road/Hall on Sunday the 23rd of August.

# SHREWSBURY STREET PARTY

*by Jane Eyre*

It was absolutely brilliant. Alex and Caoimhe delivered invites to every house on the road and estate, I couldn't believe the turn out. Everyone contributed something to the snack table and brought along chairs and games! Clodagh organised Volleyball, she was brilliant at setting up little drills and games with the kids and adults alike! Kim brought rounders while Fin, Louise, Jack and Izzy brought the giant connect 4 which was a massive hit! It was brilliant to meet all of the new neighbours and get to know everyone a little better.

I have recently just moved home to Shankill after having lived in the UK for nearly 13 years and I cannot tell you how amazing it is to bring my children home to where I grew up and for there still to be the same sense of neighbourly friendship and kindness which I had all through my childhood. Shankill really is such a special place to be.

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## GRIEVING A DEATH BY SUICIDE

The death of someone close can affect you both physically and emotionally, especially so, if the death was by suicide. The suicide of someone you love and care about is a devastating tragedy. It happens in the best of families and to the best of people, leaving the lives of the shocked survivors shattered. Suicide can bring up many feelings and experiences which are unique to each individual. Shock, disbelief, sadness, anger, irritability, loneliness and regret are normal reactions to a sudden death. These feelings may be more intense when the death is by suicide. You may also feel shame, confusion, misunderstood and alone in your grief. These feelings may come and go over a long period of time. There is no right or wrong way to feel and there is no time limit. Your sleep and eating patterns may be disrupted and you may feel abnormally tired. You might have trouble concentrating on tasks or conversations. You may want to avoid people so you don't have to talk about it.

When someone ends their own life, those left behind often feel hurt and struggle to understand why someone would die by suicide. There may be questions of, "could I have done something to prevent this," or "why did they do it?" or "why did I not see this coming?" These questions often bring with them a feeling of guilt, shame or maybe feelings of blame.

Sometimes, there may be clues as to why someone ended their life; they may have been depressed or may have left a note. As a survivor you may have strong feelings of guilt, as suicide seems like not just a loss but also an accusation that you may not have loved them enough or your relationship was not good enough. Many people who feel suicidal withdraw from others around them or they might show no sign at all that anything is wrong.

In many ways, suicide is one of the most difficult deaths to mourn. You probably feel a sense of betrayal and might struggle with many unanswered questions. Your need to understand and make sense of what happened is sometimes one of the most difficult aspects of grieving. No matter what the reasons are, it may never be possible to fully understand why the person who died felt it was impossible to live. Behind your questions is a broken heart, which is slowly trying to heal with questions which may never be answered or you may never resolve the mystery of their life and death.

It is important to know you are not responsible for the person's decision to end their life. Family and friends may find themselves thinking about what happened and wondering "If only". Know you may not have understood, or have been aware of any problems the person had before they died. Like many survivors, your job is to find a way to accept what has happened without fully understanding why. Each family member will have had their own individual relationship with the person who has died, so everyone in the family will grieve in their own unique way, and that is ok. Talking to other people who have been bereaved by suicide can help. Bethany Bereavement Support knows that connection with other people who are grieving can help. Hearing from someone who has walked a similar path, who has sat with the same questions, the same guilt, the same love, can make an enormous difference. Bethany Bereavement is not a replacement for professional support, and if you are in crisis, we always encourage you to reach out for that professional help.

If you are finding it hard to cope with grief, Bethany Bereavement Support is available and trained to listen with empathy and compassion. **Please contact St. Anne's Resource Centre 01 2888704 for information.**
***Ann Hunt**, Bethany Bereavement Support*

## SHANKILL MEN'S SHED

*Seid na bhFear Seancille*

Well, the Summer has now departed but the work on the Graveyard Project continues apace with great strides having been made in cutting back additional vegetation and widening the entrance and exit to this hallowed ground.

Our work in this area will ensure that family members and visitors attending to the graveyard will be able to sit and reflect in relative comfort.

In that vein, we have decided to continue with this important clearance work over the winter (weather permitting) as well as making a bench or two to allow for visitors to sit and reflect on the 1,800 persons interred in this location.

Additionally, we have also decided to renovate an old 'famine' pot and make it a feature within the confines of the Graveyard. Finally, as Autumn began to close in, we held our inaugural 'End of Summer' BBQ at the 'Shed' on the 3 September 2026 where twelve 'shedders' attended and shared an odd sceál fadá whilst at the same time, wrapping their ample jaws around some juicy burgers and jumbo sausages!

Don't forget that you can contact Shankill Men's Shed on:
***shankillmensshed8@gmail.com***

Slán go foill ó Seid na bhFear i Seanchille.
*Mick Lernihan*

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# Shankill TidyTowns — Glanbhaile Seanchill

## Shankill TidyTowns
## Strategy 2027-2030

Shankill TidyTowns has performed very well in the SuperValu TidyTowns competition, with 4 successive gold medals in recent years and, hopefully, a fifth in 2026.

While it would be great to maintain this high standard, there is a risk that if we don't seek to improve, we may well go backwards.

With the help of the Shankill Community, we believe that we can do better. The projects listed are ambitious but together we can get the programme under way.

Our successful meeting on 10th September marks the start of a process of greater cooperation between Shankill Tidy Towns and the wider Shankill Community.

**Working Together for Shankill**

## Shankill TidyTowns
## Green Projects

### Green Spaces & Landscaping

- Review Planting in Village, at DART Station & Back Gate of St. Anne's School (New)
- Pocket Forests (New).
- Summer Planting & Watering.
- Tidying, Planting & Maintaining Small Plots.

### Nature & Biodiversity

- Stonebridge Park Perimeter (New).
- Wildlife Habitats (New).
- Neglected Woodlands (New).
- Protecting Our Coast, Uplands & Streams in DLR Development Plans (Future).
- Nature Walking Festival (Future).

### Sustainability

- Reusable Coffee Cups (New).
- Water Butts (New).
- Reduce Reuse Recycle Shankill (New).
- Shankill'sCarbon Footprint (Future).
- Safe Routes to Schools (Future).

## Shankill TidyTowns
## Operational Projects

### Tidiness & Litter

- Shops Tidying outside Premises (New).
- Litter Blackspots, Bins & Graffiti.

### Residential Streets & Areas

- Best Estate; Best Open Space (New).
- Best Front Garden (New).
- Edging Footpaths in Estates (New).
- Estates entering DLR Tidy Districts (Future).

### Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes

- Specific Proposals for Approach Roads & Principal Streets (New).
- Roundabouts: Quinn's Road & Rathmichael (New).
- Protecting Scenic Views (Future).
- Granite Walls & Overgrown Ivy.

Shankill Tidy Towns

## Shankill TidyTowns
## Community Projects

### Community

- Junior TidyTowns (New).
- Youth Activity Centre (New).
- Wood Sculptures (New).
- Dementia-Friendly Community (New).
- Age-Friendly Village (New).
- Welcoming New Residents (New).
- Summer Festival (Future).
- Revitalise Community Clean-up Days.

### Streetscape & Public Places

- Best Shopfront Competition (New).
- Heritage & History Trails (New).
- Village Improvement Scheme (Future).

SuperValu TidyTowns

*!Shankill could be a litter-free zone,*
*If we all took care of the litter we own"*

*email: shankillmatters@gmail.com*

Shankill Tidy Towns

# MÁIRE NA MBÓTHAR

*Áine Ní Dhufaigh*

An Domhnach a bhí ann. Tráthnóna fuar feanntach i mí Eanair. Cóiste na marbh ag snigh a bhealach amach ón marbhlann in Ospidéal Richmond, chun tosnú ar an turas fada siar go Contae Mhaigh Eo. Ag an am céanna, bhí seanbhean bheag ag snigh a bealach abhaile chuig tearmann Stella Maris. Bhí sí craptha leis an aois agus leis an bhfuacht, agus í cuachta suas i seanchóta agus seál. Bhí scairf timpeall a béil, á cosaint ón toitcheo a bhí ag titim sa chathair. Ní raibh fhios aici cé bhí sa chónra ná sa Morris Minor taobh thiar de. Ach d'aithin mise í, Máire na mBóthar, a d'fhanadh linn ar feadh seachtaine gach samhradh.

Tá mé ag dul siar anois, siar chuig tús na daichidí i gContae Mhaigh Eo. Is dócha nach bhfuil mé ach trí bliana d'aois. Feicim Máire ag teacht isteach an doras. Tá beart beag in a lámh aici. Tá fhios ag mo mháthair cad atá ann, cúpla slat de chadás gorm. Téann mo mháthair i mbun oibre láithreach. Tógann sí amach an t-inneall fuála. Cloisim cliotar an innill, faighim boladh an chadáis nua agus thar gach rud eile, feicim aoibh an gháire ar aghaidh Mháire. Ní fada go bhfuil naprún deas agus hata éadaigh chun dul leis, déanta ag mo mháthair. Agus déanfaidh sí ceann eile amárach. Tá Máire ar bís agus anois tá an feisteas cuí aici chun dul ag obair.

Ionad oilithreachta is ea Cnoc Mhuire. Thagadh Máire na mBóthar anseo gach bliain chun Lá Fhéile Muire Mór san Fhómhar a cheiliúradh, ar an gcúigiú lá déag de mhí Lúnasa. Agus tháinig na céadta oilithrigh ó chian is ó chóngar an lá sin. Ach tháinig Máire seachtain ar a laghad roimhe sin agus chaith sí an t-am sin ag cuidiú sa séipéal agus a naprún i ngorm na Maighdine uirthi.

Ach cé hí féin, Máire na mBóthar? Níl mórán ar eolas agam fúithi. Ní bean sráide agus ní bean déirce i. Ní raibh fadhb óil aici. Cé nach raibh teach ná treabh aici, bhí sí uasal. Bhí sí deaslabhartha agus bhí sí cliste. D'fhéadfadh sí dánta a aithris agus amhráin a chanadh agus bhí na focail ar eolas aici. Ach thar gach rud eile, ba dhuine cráifeach, diaganta í.

Táim ar ais arís sa bhliain míle, naoi gcéad caoga is a naoi. An tráthnóna sin i mí Eanair, b'shin an uair dheireannach a chonaic mé Máire. Sheas sí. Ghearr sí comhartha na croise uirthi féin agus shiúil cúpla céim linn i ndiaidh cónra m' athar. Taobh istigh den bhliain, bhí sí féin imithe. Suaimhneas na bhflaitheas dóibh beirt.

***Gluais:*** *fuar feanntach / piercing cold; cóiste na marbh / hearse; ag snigh / winding; marbhlann / morgue; craptha leis an aois / shrunk with age; cuachta suas / wrapped up; toitcheo / smog; cadás / cotton; cliotar / rattling; ar bís / sceitimíní; Ionad oilithreachta / place of pilgrimage; lá fhéile Muire Mór san Fómhar / Feast of the Assumption of our Lady; ó chian is ó chóngar / ó cheann ceann na tíre; i ngorm na Maighdine / in the Virgin's blue; a aithris / a rá; diaganta / pious.*

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*YouTube: @ShankillFC*

The Girls Academy champions a player-centric approach to youth football by prioritizing a low-pressure, fun environment that combats the high dropout rates often seen among young female athletes. By focusing on self-paced development rather than immediate competitive placement, the academy provides the psychological safety girls need to build confidence, master fundamental skills, and make mistakes without fear of failure. This strategy fosters intrinsic motivation through social connection and play, ensuring that when a player chooses to transition into structured team play, she does so with a strong foundation of self-belief and a lifelong love for the game.

At the Panthers Academy, we create a playful, safe, and child-led learning environment. This is a space truly owned and driven by the players themselves—an exploratory environment where trial, error, and creativity are highly encouraged. Rather than providing all the answers, our coaches empower the players to find their own.
Instead of traditional, rigid drills, we use dynamic, mixed games to develop essential skills. For instance, we replace standard cone-to-cone passing with a "bowling game" where players earn rewards by knocking a ball off a cone. It teaches the exact same passing accuracy, but transforms a repetitive task into an exciting challenge. Ultimately, our goal is simple: we want kids to leave every session feeling like they just "played" rather than trained.

Our U13.1 Girls team were crowned champions in the league. They were unbeaten in a fantastic season. Well done girls on this amazing achievement.

Congratulations to our U12.14 boys finishing the season as runner-up and securing promotion. What an amazing season the lads had.

Our U12.2 & U15.1 teams recently traded their traditional football pitches for an unforgettable team bonding day at Hell and Back and Footee. The day was an absolute triumph, filled with non-stop laughter, phenomenal team spirit, and unforgettable memories for both squads. The lads had a fantastic time at both events.

# SHANKILL BOWLING CLUB

*by Jack Byrne, P.R.O*

**All kitted out in our new uniforms. There to support the Club is past esteemed President and now Honorary Member, Jim Kelly.**

*Shankill Bowling Club Sat Div 3 ILB League*

Jim was a founding member of our club and was instrumental in shaping the club into what it is today. He is a great supporter of Shankill Bowling Club(SBC) and is always at hand to direct and advise on Club matters.

Thanks Jim.

**Note :** Shankill Bowling Club is open to new members who can enjoy our fabulous facilities. We are open year-round.

**Contact:** Martina - 086 8642439
Des - 087 3142759

*by Jack Byrne, P.R.O*

Heading into another Autumn, our bowling club at Quinn's Road is preparing for competition in the Winter league. It consists of games played only on outdoor all-weather surfaces, but is open to all clubs under the banner of Irish Lawn Bowls. Clubs who do not have all-weather facilities can make arrangements to rent the facilities of other clubs in the league if they wish to compete–extending their members playing opportunities from seven months to the full twelve. This fares well when looking to recruit new membership. In the past few years a growing number of communities have put into place plans to facilitate a more active lifestyle with the help of Sport Ireland. Each county has a sports partnership group attached to the local authority to facilitate and encourage people of all ages to engage in outdoor activities such as athletics, tennis, football, and of course bowling.
Initial outlay for construction of an all-weather facility is expensive but is maintenance free when completed compared to the ongoing expense of grass surface management.
Currently in the greater Leinster area there are twelve all weather bowling greens compared to nine grass surface greens.

Shankill bowling club, through the forward thinking of its current Executive, continues to introduce improvements (as is the trend among most clubs) to make the club more attractive to members within the community and to encourage a greater local interest.

We recently introduced a new and modern club uniform which incorporates the original red and white. We are also committed to holding more "Open Days" as part of a recruitment drive.

The Shankill BC had its humble beginnings as a "shortmat indoors bowls club night" thirty years ago. Within the present facilities there is an active shortmat bowls section for the use of all the membership should they wish to partake in this highly popular game which is currently competing in Wicklow East Coast League ( October/March) late evenings, the N11 league Dublin(early evening) also a social bowls evenings twice weekly is held between members which is very popular.

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**Academy Sponsored by ONYR insurance**
Our juvenile Academy is back in action at 10.00am every Saturday morning in Rathmichael School. We welcome boys and girls born in 2021 / 2022 or if your child is starting junior infants in any of our four schools St Annes, Scoil Mhuire, Rathmichael or Gael Scoil Padraig. Also, if you are new to Shankill or attending school outside of the Shankill area we would be delighted to hear from you. Shankill is a fast-growing club that promotes Gaelic games in a fun, friendly and safe environment. All equipment is provided and the first four weeks are free as the children have fun and make new friends. For more information call our GPO, Steve Davis 087 6414123 or call in and say hello any Saturday morning.

**Rathmichael Fete**
A huge thank you to everyone In Rathmichael Parish for the warm welcome and invite to be part of your wonderful annual fete. It's always a fantastic community day and one we really enjoy being part of, seeing everyone and making new friends. A big thank you from everyone at Shankill GAA Club.

**New Jerseys for 2013 Boys**
A huge thank you to Eoin Gallagher, parent and mentor of our under 13 boys, for very kindly sponsoring a new set of jerseys and bibs for Shankill Stars footballers and Southern Gaels hurlers. The teams look brilliant in their new gear. A massive thank you Eoin for your generosity and continued support.

**More Silver for Shankill**
A fantastic achievement by the 2015 boys' team on lifting the trophy at the Seán Bowden Tournament hosted by the Naomh Marcais club. Brilliant result guys keep up all the great work.

**Club Golf Classic**
Our Golf Classic is a major fundraise for the club. Thank you to Woodbrook Golf Club who hosted the event again this year. All the teams enjoyed their day out and the course was in pristine condition considering the fantastic summer we all enjoyed. The winners were Nick O Keane's team well done to them. We would like to thank all the teams who took part, the tee box sponsors and the businesses who donated prizes for the draw. Also, John Brady who sponsored the event and his staff for looking after us so well as we enjoyed the food and craic in the evening.

**Trip To Cork**
Once again, our under 9 and under 12 years teams set off to Passage West for the annual girls Football Blitz. Incredible passion, determination and teamwork was shown by both teams. It was a fantastic weekend for the girls who did the club proud on and off the pitch. Also well done to the coaches, parents and all of the supporters who made the journey.

**Adult Camogie Team.**
**The club intends to field our first adult Camogie team in the 2027 season. Calling all ladies, if you would like join us even if you haven't played for some time, or are new to the game or new to Shankill we would love to hear from you, Contact Steve 087 6414123. All skills levels are welcome.**

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# FINANCE CORNER

*by Shankill Financial Services*

***Why Is This Time of Year Called Pension Season?***

You may have heard October referred to as "pension season". But why is this time of year such an important one for pensions? The answer is largely about tax. For many people, October is an opportunity to look at what they earned and what tax they paid in the previous year and consider whether making an additional pension contribution could give them valuable Income Tax relief. For self-employed people, this coincides with the annual tax return period. The deadline for filing the 2025 Income Tax Return and paying the associated tax is **31 October 2026**, extended to 18 November 2026 for those who both pay and file through ROS.

**Employees can also top up their pension:**
If you are an employee with a workplace pension, you may already be making regular pension contributions from your salary. However, you may also be able to make an **Additional Voluntary Contribution (AVC)** on top of your normal pension contribution.

An AVC is simply an additional amount you choose to put towards your retirement. It doesn't necessarily have to be a monthly payment. Depending on your pension arrangements, you may be able to make a once-off lump-sum contribution.

For example, suppose you are an employee who paid Income Tax during 2025. You could make a qualifying once-off AVC in October 2026 and, subject to Revenue's rules and your available limits, elect to have the tax relief treated as relating to 2025. This means you could put money into your pension now and receive a refund of some of the Income Tax you already paid in 2025.

**How much tax relief can you get?**
The amount of relief depends on your circumstances, including your age, earnings and existing pension contributions. The age-related limits range from 15% of earnings for those under 30 to 40% for those aged 60 or over, with a maximum of €115,000 of earnings taken into account for this calculation. Tax relief is generally available at your marginal rate of Income Tax.

So, for example, someone making a €10,000 qualifying contribution who is entitled to relief at 40% could potentially receive €4,000 of Income Tax relief.

**What about the self-employed?**
For a self-employed person, pension contributions should form an important part of annual tax planning. A qualifying contribution provides Income Tax relief, subject to the relevant limits, while at the same time putting more money aside for retirement.

Before making a lump-sum contribution, it's important to check your existing pension contributions, your age-related limits and the amount of relief available to you. A financial adviser can help you establish what you can contribute and what tax relief you may be entitled to.

# SHANKILL SENIORS CENTRE

**HELP US GET SHANKILL SENIORS CENTRE ON THE ROAD!**

Shankill Seniors Centre is delighted to launch an exciting new fundraising campaign to raise funds for a mini bus for the Centre.

Our seniors centre is a vital resource for older people in the Shankill community. It provides a welcoming place where seniors can meet, socialise, take part in activities, enjoy outings and, most importantly, stay connected with their friends and community. For many of our members, the centre plays an important role in maintaining independence, reducing isolation and creating a strong sense of belonging.

**Why do we need a mini bus?**
A mini bus would make a huge difference to what we can offer our members. It would allow us to bring more senior members into the centre, particularly those who may have difficulty accessing transport themselves. This would help us reach more people in our community and ensure that nobody misses out because of transport difficulties.

The mini bus would also be a fantastic asset to the wider Shankill community. We hope to make it available to help local community groups with their transport needs, supporting other organisations and helping people of all ages get involved in community activities and events.

**How can you help?**
We are currently looking at different ways to raise the money needed to purchase a mini bus and we would love the support and ideas of the local community.

We  welcome raffle prizes that could be included in our fundraising raffle. Whether you are a local business that can donate a voucher or service, or an individual who would like to contribute a prize, every donation would be greatly appreciated.

We are also open to suggestions for fundraising ideas. If you have an idea for an event, activity or initiative that could help us reach our target, we would love to hear from you. And, of course, donations of any size are very welcome. Every contribution will bring us one step closer to getting our minibus on the road.

**Join us for our Book and Bake Sale!**
Our first fundraising event will be a Book and Bake Sale on Saturday 7th November, from 10am to 1pm at Shankill Seniors Centre Lower Road, Shankill D18HW95.

Come along and enjoy lots of delicious homemade goodies, support our fundraising campaign and take the opportunity to enter our raffle and be in with a chance of winning some great prizes.

We hope the people of Shankill and the surrounding community will get behind our campaign. With everyone's support, we can provide better transport for our seniors, bring more people through the doors of the centre and support other local community groups too.

## Together, we can get Shankill Seniors Centre on the road!

For raffle prizes, donations, fundraising ideas or more information, please contact:

**Email:** *info@shankillseniorcentre.ie*
**Website:** *www.shankillseniorscentre.ie*
**Telephone:** 01 282 6364

## We look forward to seeing you at our Bake Sale!

**Date: Saturday 7th November**

**Time: 10am–1pm**

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# **HISTORY:** LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY LECTURES

*by James Scannell*

**MOUNT MERRION HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Gregory Walls will present *'The 1926 Census'* at 8pm on Thursday 8th of October in The Fitzwilliam Rooms, Mount Merrion Community Centre, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin. All are welcome – admission is €5/Students €2.

**THE OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY**
David Walton will present *'The Life and Times of Martin A. Walton (1900-1981)'* on Wednesday 7th of October, Enda Finnian 'The Development of the Navan Road District, 1700 – 2000' on Wednesday 14th of October, and Freddie Dwyer *'The Vulnerability of Dublin in 1939 from Irish and German Documents'* on Wednesday 28th of October. These lectures will take place in The Conference Room of Dublin City Library & Archive, 139-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2
All are welcome – admission is free and no booking is required.

**KILMACUD-STILLORGAN LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**
Kevin Connaire will present *'From Foundlings to Healing: The Evolution of children's care in Dublin and the story of Harcourt Street Hospital'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday 8th of October in St. Lawrence's Parish Centre, Lower Kilmacud Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin. Members are free – visitors are €3. Please note that there is a car parking charge of €1 per hour at this venue – coin payment only.

**THE MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY OF IRELAND**
Dr. Mary McAuliffe will present *'The Soldiers of Cumann na mBan–Women, Militancy, and the Revolutionary Wars of 1919-22'* at 8 p.m. on Friday 9th of October in Griffith College, South Circular Road, Dublin 8. All are welcome–admission is free–wheelchair access available.

**MALAHIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Dr. Brian Gurrin, David Rafferty, and Chris Walker will present *'Local Historical Treasures Retrieved, including the Story of a Malahide Family (the Raffertys)'* at 8 p.m. on Tuesday 13th of October in St, Sylvester's Parish Centre, 1 Main Street, Malahide, Co. Dublin. All are welcome.

**FOXROCK LOCAL HISTORY CLUB**
Michael Hughes will present *'The Arrival of Electricity in Deansgrange'* at 6.30 p.m. on Monday 19th of October in Deansgrange Library. Admission is free but booking is required at 01-2047218. Ed Ryan and Dan Quill will present *'Kill-O-The-Grange Police Station and Garda Station, 1847-2013'* in Foxrock Parish Pastoral Centre, Foxrock, Co. Dublin. All are welcome – admission is €5.

**CLONDALKIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Peadar Curran will present *'The Story of Icehouses'* at 8 p.m. on Monday 19th of October in Áras Chrónáin–Irish Cultural Centre, Watery Lane, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin. All are welcome–admission is €5.

**DUN LAOGHAIRE BOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Caimin O'Brien will present *'Grave Slabs of South Dublin'* at 8 p.m. on Wednesday 21st of October in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All are welcome - admission is €5. Free hotel parking is available for those attending this lecture.

**BRAY CUALANN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Dr. Tom Curtis will present *'Biodiversity'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday 22nd of October in the Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All are welcome–members free–visitors €8.

**IRISH RAILWAY RECORD SOCIETY**
Leslie McAllister will present *'Lance King in Ulster – the Great Northern'* at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 29th of October in the Society's Dublin Hueston Station premises. Strictly members and their guests only.

## SHANKILL – LOOKING BACK

**IMPROPER PARKING OF A LORRY IN ST. COLUMCILLE'S HOSPITAL**

At the September 26th 1926 meeting of the Rathdown Board of Guardians, which administered St. Columcille's Hospital, a board member complained about a lorry with the name 'Owens' being parked in a hospital building as no-one had the right to use the hospital premises for that purpose. It emerged that a Mr. George Owens was employed as a temporary ambulance driver in place of his father who had been ill for the previous three months. A subsequent search of the hospital premises turned up no trace of this vehicle.

## PUBLICATIONS

*History Ireland* magazine, Sept/Oct 2026, Editor Tommy Graham, published by Wordwell Books.

Articles featured in the current issue of this excellent Irish history magazine include: 'From the Editor' by Tommy Graham, 'Gulliver's Travels @ 300 – still relevant after all these years' by Brendan Twomey, 'The Caldwell of County Fermanagh and the American Revolutionary War' by David Murphy, 'The Waterford County election of 1826' by Eugene Broderick, 'Irish domestic servants and the making of Guilded Age America' Loretto Leary, 'An accident celebrity - James Francis Egan (1847-1909)' by Simon Briercliffe, 'Are the Irish from Atlantis? Theosophy and the Irish race' by Robin Fuller, 'Dublin Civic Weeks – modernity, art and industry in the 1920s' by Billy Shorthall, 'Wexford Opera Festival – 75 years on' by Nicky Rossiter, 'Roger Casement and the Congo today' by Dave Alvey, 'The history of science in Ireland – why the neglect' by Malin Starrett, 'Gems of Architecture – Kylemore Church (1877-81), Co. Galway' by Damian Murphy, 'Coercive confinement – finding mother and baby homes in the 1926 Census' by Fiona Fitzsimmons, 'The funeral of Sir Charles Gavan Duffy to Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin, March 1903' by Brian Casey, 'Gold Standard – the first Dublin Ph. D. robes' by Andrew Hogg, 'A week in the life of an Irish newsreel (Amharc Éireann) production' by Helena Mulkerns, 'The Daniel MacCarthy (Glas) Collection' by Felix Meehan, 'Roddy Connolly and the Workers' Party of Ireland' by Joseph E. A. Connell Jr.

## **RATHMICHAEL** HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*by Richard Ryan*

The summer outings for this year finished with two in September. The first included a tour of the Chapter House at St Mary's Abbey–one of Dublin's lesser-known gems–and a visit to the archaeological excavation site at Capel Street, led by Edmond O'Donovan. At the end of the month Con Manning led us on a tour of Trim Castle and Newtown Trim.

Looking back to August, our celebrations of 50 years of the Rathmichael Summer School brought back wonderful memories of archaeological excavations, summer teaching courses and more than a thousand lectures. We were delighted to welcome back Damien and Edie MacGarry, who met at our first Summer School and married soon after. Naturally they were the ones to cut the cake!

The winter/spring lecture programme will be as follows:

- Wednesday, 7th October: *History of Howth Castle* by Rob Goodbody
- Wednesday, 4th November: *Origin of the O'Neill and O'Donnell Dynasties* by Brian Lacey
- Wednesday, 2nd December: *Wood Quay* by Pat Wallace
- Wednesday, 6th January: *History of Kilternan Parish* by Rob Goodbody
- Wednesday, 3rd February: *AGM followed by Avoca Handweavers: a History of the Founders, the Wynne Sisters* by Allan O'Neill
- Wednesday, 3rd March: To be arranged
- Wednesday, 7th April: *Georgian Gothic* by Judith Hill

All lectures will be at 8pm in Rathmichael School, Stonebridge Road, Shankill, Co.Dublin. Wheelchair accessible. Admittance for non-members €5. Also available on Zoom.

See website for further information:
*www.rathmichaelhistoricalsociety.ie*


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**Shankill & Ballybrack**
**Community First Responders**
*Registered Charity Number: 20200526*

It has been a busy summer for Shankill & Ballybrack CFR, with two significant events in August. Firstly, we ran our annual multi-agency training exercise at Rathmichael Church grounds. This exercise involved over 60 responders from eight CFR groups training alongside the National Ambulance Service, Coast Guard, and An Garda Síochána. This exercise provides an invaluable opportunity to practice and develop skills across a range of incident scenarios, and build the teamwork that drives optimal outcomes for patients.

Secondly, 2026 marks the 10th anniversary of Shankill & Ballybrack CFR. From humble beginnings, our group has grown in number and expanded to serve Killiney, Glenageary, Loughlinstown, Cherrywood, Cabinteely, Ballyogan, Carrickmines, Stepaside and Kilternan.

To celebrate the milestone, we hosted a special event marking 10 years of serving our local communities.

Local TDs Barry Ward and Cormac Devlin joined us, together with Dúnlaoghaire-Rathdown Leas-Chathaoirleach. Councillor Mary Fayne and Councillors Lettie McCarthy and Jacqueline Burke (former Chair of the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council), alongside members of the National Ambulance Service, An Garda Síochána, local community groups, and volunteers from seven neighbouring CFR schemes.

We were especially honoured to be joined by local TD and Minister for Health, Jennifer Carroll McNeill, TD.

The minister spoke very highly of Community First Responder programmes across the state, and in particular, the impact of Shankill & Ballybrack CFR, who, along with attending over 1100 emergency calls over the years, have also trained thousands of people and installed dozens of Community AEDs.

**Here's to the next 10 years serving the community!**

LEARN MORE
Follow our Socials to Learn More

GET INVOLVED
Reach out to become a volunteer

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*www.shankillcfr.ie*

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# SHANKILL LIBRARY

*by DLR CoCo*

Join us at Stonebridge Community Facility, our temporary premises,for a number of services: reserves, printing; a small selection of stock, both adult and children to choose from, Wi-Fi, newspapers/magazines, and more. Open from Monday to Thursday from 10am to 4pm. For more information go to *libraries.dlrcoco.ie*

**Please see a selection of activities taking place below:**

**Storytime Tuesdays, 3.15pm**

Join us for weekly storytime sessions in Stonebridge Community Facility as we read some fun and exciting stories. Ages 3-6 yrs. No booking required.

**Halloween Storytime, Tuesday 27th October, 3:15pm**
Join us for our fun Halloween stories and colouring. Get ready for magic, mischief and Halloween fun! Ages 3-6 yrs. To book, phone 01 204 7224 or email *shankilllib@dlrcoco.ie*

**Online Resources**

Do you know that libraries provide a number of great online services? For instance, Borrowbox and Libby offer a wide selection of e-books and audiobooks to download, as well as access to e-newspapers/ magazines. Kanopy offers a great selection of films, tv shows and documentaries to view. Freegal has a wide selection of music to stream and download. Plus, if you want to learn more languages, the Transparent Languages app is perfect for that with many flexible courses to choose f rom. Visit *libraries.dlrcoco.ie/using-your-library/eresources* to find out more about our services.

For support on how to use our online services, you can book one to one, 30 minute sessions with us at the Stonebridge Community Facility on Thursdays between 3-4pm. All you need is your library card and PIN. To book, phone 01 204 7224 or email *shankilllib@dlrcoco.ie*

**Junior Board Games - Wednesdays 2.30pm-4pm**

Come join us for a fun afternoon playing some of the most popular boardgames for children. We have a great selection of games including Kerplunk, Cluedo Junior, Guess Who and more. So challenge yourself at our boardgame club every Wednesday from 2.30pm. Ages 7 yrs+. No booking required.

To find out more information on any of our activities and services, please visit *libraries.dlrcoco.ie*


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November - French Wines & Food Pairing Evening

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01

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# **SCHOOL NEWS:** RATHMICHAEL NS

School reopened for the new academic year on 27th August and we welcomed all our pre-existing families and our new students. Our return to school is always marked by our annual Parish Fete which took place this year on Saturday 5th September. A huge amount of work goes into the Fete and the whole community gets involved, both in the build up to it and on the day itself. The weather played its part and there was an amazing turnout. There was something for everyone and the place was buzzing. For new parents it was a great way to meet other families and get involved from the beginning. All the children really enjoyed the games, fancy dress, face painting and the fun of the day.

Many thanks to all the volunteers for giving up their time to help with all the sorting in the week before, the Friday set up, and manning the stalls on the Fete day. We also want to say thank you to our sponsors, advertisers and to all the local businesses (and those beyond Shankill boundaries) for donating so generously, particularly to the Raffle. Thanks to St. Anne's School for the use of its car park on the day. Many thanks to all who helped with the clean up and return the school to normal.

This event involves everyone, including the Staff, PTA, Board of Management and the community–many thanks to the wider Shankill community for all the support. There are very few events which involve so many willing volunteers.

Everyone is looking forward to the term ahead and all the events to come.

**Naomi Rousseau** *(Principal)*

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# SCHOOL NEWS: SCOIL MHUIRE

Biodiversity is alive and well in Scoil Mhuire thanks to Difference Days, St. Gerard's School and O'Hanlon Herbs.

Our Reading Dog, Rose taking a well-earned break in the staff room.

Scoil Mhuire
PRIMARY SCHOOL SHANKILL
NOW ENROLLING
IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING ENROLLING YOUR CHILD, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE TO MEET OUR CURRENT INFANT TEACHERS AND VIEW OUR INFANT CLASSROOMS
Please drop into the office for an application form or download one from www.primaryschoolshankill.ie and return by post or via email to secretary@scoilmhuireshankill.ie
Induction meeting for parents and orientation day for children details to follow
TEL: 01 282 3507

# **UPDATE FROM:** CORMAC DEVLIN, TD

I hope you are all keeping well. I will be hosting a **public meeting on the Retrofitting Grants** available to householders, at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 20th October** in the **Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire.**

I'll be joined by Cllr. Michael Clark and Cllr. Justin Moylan, along with industry specialists who will be on hand to answer your questions. Everyone is welcome to attend what promises to be an interesting evening.

There's complementary parking in the hotel's underground carpark. Please feel free to contact Michael Reynolds in my office on 01 275 0786 if you have any questions in advance of the event.

◆ **BUDGET 2027**

Budget 2027 will be announced on Tuesday 6th October. Readers will be aware I have been pushing hard for a decent tax package for workers and a cost-of-living package that shields households from rising costs. I raised this alongside the other priorities with ministers at the recent Fianna Fáil Think-In.
I will continue engaging with ministers ahead of Budget 2027 to ensure it supports hard-pressed households and businesses. Please get in touch if you've any last-minute suggestions.

◆ **CELEBRATING SHANKILL & BALLYBRACK COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS**

It was a pleasure to join Shankill and Ballybrack Community First Responders in Rathmichael Parish Hall in August as the group marked its 10th anniversary. Michael Reynolds from my office was also in attendance.

*Cormac Devlin TD & Michael Reynolds join Shankill & Ballybrack First Responders*

The evening included a series of short presentations on the group's work and on how far it has come since it was established in 2016. From small beginnings in Shankill and Ballybrack, the group now covers Killiney, Glenageary, Loughlinstown, Cherrywood, Cabinteely, Ballyogan, Carrickmines, Kilternan and Enniskerry.

Community First Responders are trained local volunteers who are alerted to emergencies in their own area and who are very often first on the scene, in the minutes before an ambulance arrives. They give that time freely, on top of work and family commitments, and the difference it makes to a neighbour in trouble is impossible to overstate.

My thanks to Chairperson Loman Brophy and to every one of the volunteers for the invitation on the night and for ten years of service to this part of the constituency. It is a group the whole area can be proud of, and long may it continue.

◆ **KEEPING IN TOUCH**

My monthly Advice Clinic takes place in **Brady's of Shankill** on the last Saturday of each month, excluding Bank Holidays.

To make an appointment, please contact **Michael Reynolds** in my office on 01 275 0786 or email *cormac@cormacdevlin.ie*

Cormac
Devlin TD
Fianna Fáil TD for Dún Laoghaire
PUBLIC MEETING
RETROFITTING GRANTS
ROYAL MARINE HOTEL
7:30PM TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER
FIANNA FÁIL
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
Local Advice Clinic: Brady's of Shankill,
please contact 01 275 0786 to arrange an appointment.
Sign up to my e-bulletin at cormacdevlin.ie or scan the QR code
Political Advert for full details visit: fiannafail.ie/transparency

# **SCHOOL NEWS:** ST. ANNE'S NS

We are in the process of setting up our new Media Team.We will introduce them next week. They will be a range of students from 4th to 6th class and write all the news from next month!

We are very happy to have our new prefects for this year. They have taken on the responsibility of helping the younger children on the yard. They have been so helpful. Here is a picture of them:

*Hello, we are the prefects. We are going to tell you about being a prefect and our duties. To become prefects we had to write a letter to Ms Kelly about why we should become prefects. Ms Kelly was very impressed with our letters so we became prefects! We wrote in our letters about how responsible, kind and caring we are, and how good we are with kids! We enjoy looking after the children and they are always so happy to see us! The little kids are so sweet and funny, and they always bring a smile to our faces!*

**Our Duties**
We have a few different duties like:

- Prefecting the Junior and Solas yard which involves minding the younger classes and being on yard with them, even playing with them if you are lucky!

- Door duty involves sitting inside and telling people where to go. Sometimes you have to take people to the office. It is fun when you have a friend to chat with. Football zones are another duty, this involves laying out the cones for the other classes to play football and watching out so no one gets hurt.

In conclusion, being prefects has been an amazing experience and we highly recommend it!

The small children are so sweet and kind

**Zainab and Ebrahim**
We are very proud of two students in our school. Zainab and Ebrahim who have trained so hard with Wai Tribe Muay Thai gym since 2023. They have achieved something incredible, both have earned a spot on Team Ireland in the IKSA World Championship in Madrid. This event will take place in November.

We as a whole school are so proud of them. The dedication it takes to train at such a young age but also to make the Irish team! We wish them all the luck in the world.

Enjoy the experience and we cannot wait to hear about it when you are back! Zainab and Ebrahim train 3 times a week for an hour each session. They're little sister Aminah is hoping to start soon too!

**Meet and get to know some of our Junior Infants**

**An Interview with James and Slaney**
*by Ella in Ms.Errity's 6th Class*

1. *What is your favourite part about school?*
**James:** Colouring
**Slaney:** The teacher

2. *Has it been nice making new friends?*
**James:** Yes and I already had some too.
**Slaney:** Yes!

3. *What is your favourite hot lunch?*
**James:** Ham and cheese wrap
**Slaney:** Pasta

4. *Do you like yard time?*
**James:** Yes!
**Slaney:** Of course!

5. *What do you like about your teacher?*
**James:** Yes, she is the best.
**Slaney:** I like holding her hand

**An Interview with Tom, Max and Oliver**
*by Daniel in Ms. Errity's 6th Class*

1. *What is your favourite part about school?*
**Tom:** Going to the yard.
**Max:** playing with toys.
**Oliver:** Drawing

2. *What do you like to do in the yard?*
**Tom:** Play tag.
**Max:** Play tag.
**Oliver:** Play with friends.

3. *Do you like Arts and Crafts?*
**All:** yes!

4. *What breakfast do you have before school?*
**Max:** Brioche
**Tom:** Cereal
**Oliver:** Cereal

5. *Have you made any new friends?*
**All:** Yes!

# TUAIRISC POBAIL: Ó BARRY WARD, TD

*A chara,*

*Tá súil agam go bhfuil tú go maith. Tá áthas orm a bheith in ann an tuarascáil mhíosúil seo a chur i láthair daoibh. Mar bhur dTeachta Dála de chuid Fhine Gael, táim ag obair go dian i dteannta mo chomhghleacaithe i Seanchill - agus sa Rialtas - chun torthaí a bhaint amach daoibh.*

I am delighted to be able to present this monthly report as part of the SCAN. As your Fine Gael TD, I am working hard along with my colleagues in Shankill–and in Government–to deliver results for you.

### ◆ SHANKILL COMMUNITY MEETING

I was delighted to attend the Shankill Community Meeting on September 10th held in St. Anne's Resource Centre. It was hosted by Shankill Tidy Towns in conjunction with local schools, sports clubs, businesses and other community groups. I am always eager to support our community in any way I can, and this was a brilliant forum to get feedback on the issues directly impacting residents. I will continue to work on the issues raised with me, but if anybody has any further concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

### ◆ SHANKILL CASTLE

I am proud to support the €130,000 in funding that has been allocated to Shankill Castle ruins under the Community Monuments Fund which supports 104 heritage projects across the country by facilitating archaeological improvements and improving public access.

### ◆ LOCAL CHILDCARE PLACES

Access to affordable childcare is an issue in many parts of the constituency, but in recent months Shankill has been experiencing a particular shortage of places. I will continue to work with the Department of Children, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Childcare Committee, and local childcare providers to try and address these shortfalls.

### ◆ SUPPORTING SHANKILL GAA

I continue to work with Shankill GAA to progress a number of issues for the club, including greater access to all-weather pitch facilities and fair allocation of pitches throughout the year from DLRCoCo.

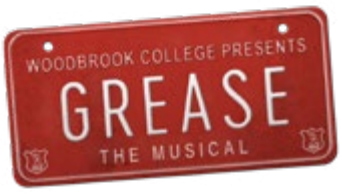
### ◆ GET IN TOUCH WITH ME

My office is always available to assist you with any local or national issue. Please get in touch by phone at 085 157 8000 *(feel free to drop us a WhatsApp message)*, or email *barry.ward@oireachtas.ie*.

Your local Fine Gael team: Barry Ward TD, Minister Jennifer Carroll MacNeill TD, Cllr. Jim Gildea, Cllr. Jacqueline Burke, Cllr. Frank McNamara, Regina Doherty MEP

# SCHOOL NEWS: WOODBROOK COLLEGE

## GREASE IS THE WORD AT WOODBROOK COLLEGE




Woodbrook College is getting ready to turn up the volume, dust off the leather jackets and bring Rydell High to life as its Transition Year students take on the iconic Grease The Musical in March 2027.

The much-loved musical will take over the Woodbrook College Sports Hall on Tuesday 9, Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 March 2027, promising three nights of music, dancing, comedy and plenty of rock 'n' roll.

After three successful years of productions at the Mermaid Theatre, the school is delighted to bring its musical back home to Woodbrook College. The return to the Sports Hall provides the perfect opportunity to transform a familiar school space into Rydell High and create an exciting, immersive experience for audiences.

With its energetic songs, colourful characters and larger-than-life atmosphere, Grease is perfectly suited to the space. The aim is to make audiences feel as though they have stepped straight into Rydell High for the night, with the music, action and excitement unfolding all around them.

The production will showcase the huge range of talent within Woodbrook College, with students taking centre stage and bringing the much-loved characters, songs and stories of Grease to life.

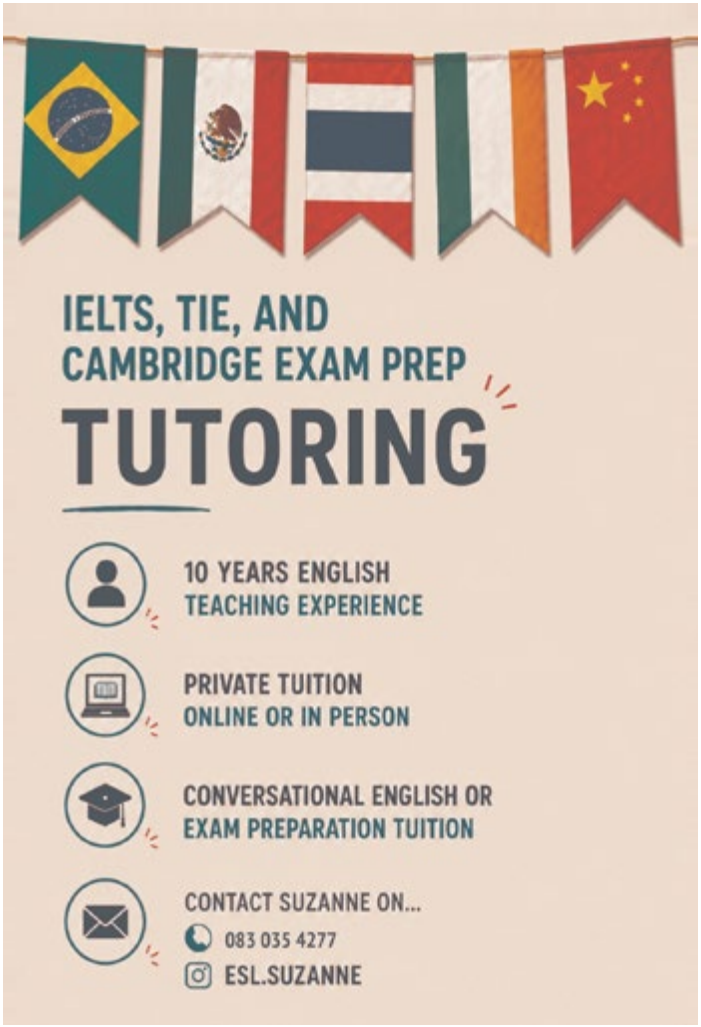
For the TY students, the musical is about much more than putting on a show. It is an opportunity to build confidence, develop new skills, work as a team and take on the challenge of producing a major school production.

Woodbrook College is excited to welcome past pupils, parents, families, musical theatre fans and the wider local community back to the school for what promises to be an energetic and memorable production.

So, get ready for the Pink Ladies, the T-Birds and the students of Rydell High as Woodbrook College proves once again that Grease really is the word!

- Tuesday 9, Wednesday 10 & Thursday 11 March 2027
- Woodbrook College Sports Hall
- Grease The Musical — performed by the Woodbrook College TY students.

Details on ticket sales will be announced shortly. Keep an eye on the Woodbrook College website and social media channels for further information.

# ASK A COUNCILLOR: CLLR. JIM GILDEA

### ◆ ACCESS OFFICER AND ACCESS STRATEGY

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive when an Access Officer will be appointed in the County and when an Access Strategy will be published?

***Reply:*** The Council has had an Access Officer in place for a number of years and the role was strengthened with the establishment of the Council's Equality Office in 2025. See https://www.dlrcoco.ie/governance/public-sector-equality-human-rights-duty#access officer-and-inquiry-officer for further details. Preliminary work has commenced on the drafting of an Access Strategy and a consultation and engagement process will take place later this year. It is envisaged that the completed strategy will be brought before Council by June 2027.

### ◆ SHANGANAGH CASTLE ESTATE TIC

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive to provide information on when Shanganagh Castle Estate will be taken in charge by the Council?

***Reply:*** Following cessation of the defect maintenance period for Shanganagh Castle Estate on the 18th of August 2026, maintenance of the Roads, Surface water Drainage, Public Footpaths, Public Lighting and Public Open Space of the development passed to Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.

### ◆ RESIDENTIAL ZONED LAND TAX

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive how much tax has been invoiced and how much has been collected to date under the Residential Zoned Land Tax scheme and furthermore to state how much of this tax has been invoiced to and paid by this Local Authority.

***Reply:*** The collection and amount of RZLT is a matter for the Revenue Commissioners. In terms of RZLT incurred by this Council, the table below shows payments for 2025 and 2026.

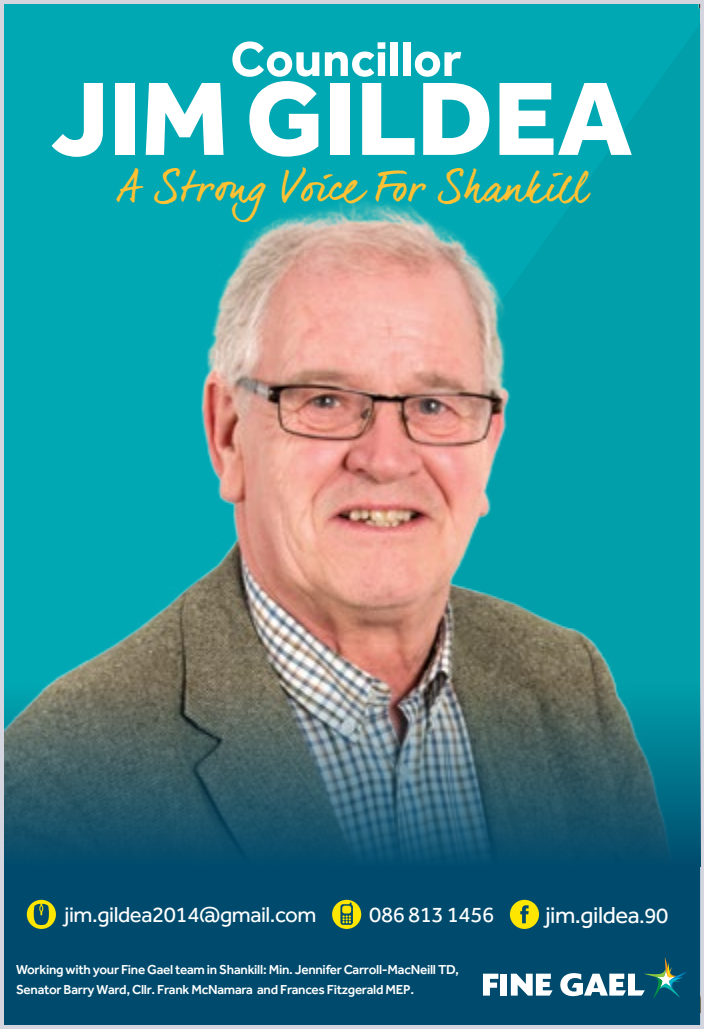
| YEAR | Market Land Value | 3% Tax to be paid by DLRCC | Date payment issued |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2025 | 26.6m | 798,000 | 28/05/2025 |
| 2026 | 19.09m | 542,700 | 22/05/2026 |

### ◆ CAFE AT TULLY PARK

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on when the cafe at Tully Park, Cherrywood will be open to the public, as it is noted that there is widespread dismay in the community at the length of time it is taking to have this facility operational?

***Reply:*** The Parks Section engaged the services of a procurement specialist/consultant to advise and support the overall procurement process for Council cafés, including the Tully Park Café concession. The tender process for the Tully Park Café at Tully Park, Cherrywood was advertised on the national procurement platform, eTenders. The tender process has now concluded and the café concession has been awarded to Mr Magpie, who also operate the tearooms in Blackrock Park and Killiney Hill Park.

The café building was provided at shell / first-fix stage. No funding had previously been provided within the Parks budget


Councillor
JIM GILDEA
A Strong Voice For Shankill
jim.gildea2014@gmail.com
086 813 1456
jim.gildea.90
Working with your Fine Gael team in Shankill: Min. Jennifer Carroll-MacNeill TD, Senator Barry Ward, Cllr. Frank McNamara and Frances Fitzgerald MEP.
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to complete the additional works required to bring the building into operation, including internal fit-out, services, equipment, compliance works and other associated requirements. The Council is now working with Mr Magpie to complete the necessary fit-out works and bring the building into operation. Capital funding has been made available to progress the works. While these works are ongoing, arrangements have been made to offer a limited café service from a portable modular unit, providing an interim service to park users pending completion of the permanent café fit-out. A definitive opening date for the permanent café cannot yet be confirmed, but the Council is progressing the necessary steps to bring the facility into operation as soon as practicable.

***Note:*** I am happy to report that the limited café service from a portable modular unit opened to the public on 5th Sept.

### ◆ WOODBROOK DEVELOPMENT

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive when Phase II of the development at Woodbrook Estate, Shankill will commence, particularly the provision of the commercial area and the open space/play areas?

***Reply:*** Woodbrook Phase 2 is a private development being constructed under planning application reference no. LRD24A/0382/WEB, the final grant for which is dated 23rd January 2025. An indicative construction phasing plan was submitted with this application. All works must be completed within the lifetime of the grant of permission.

## ASK A COUNCILLOR: CLLR. JIM GILDEA

*continued...*

◆ **DERELICT SITE REGISTER**

***Motion:*** To ask the Chief Executive to list the number of sites that are included on our Derelict Site Register and further to state how many of these sites are subject to active engagement by the Council with the owner of the site.

***Report:*** There are 26 properties/sites entered on the current Derelict Sites Register. Section 8 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 sets out the procedures to be followed to enter a site on a Derelict Sites Register. The Act requires "active engagement by the Council" from the outset if a case is to be pursued in accordance with the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. The critical element of this process is identifying the correct details in relation to ownership and/or occupation of the relevant site/ property, as this facilitates the best opportunity regarding engagement with a view to rendering sites non derelict.
***Note:*** There is a total of three sites in Shankill on the register. Please contact me if there are sires you feel should be regarded as derelict.

◆ **THE MANAGEMENT OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN HAP/RAS TENANCIES**

***Motion:*** That this committee discuss The Management of Anti-social behaviour in HAP/RAS tenancies.

***Report:*** The Council has no remit in relation to the management or investigation of anti-social behaviour in HAP or RAS tenancies. As HAP and RAS tenancies are privately rented accommodation, responsibility for the management of the tenancy, including addressing any issues relating to tenant behaviour, rests with the landlord.


CK

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# ASK A COUNCILLOR: CLLR. CARRIE SMYTH

### ◆ PEDESTRIAN CROSSING DUBLIN ROAD, SHANKILL VILLAGE NEAR QUINN'S ROAD/CHERRINGTON ROUNDABOUT

I am continuing to pursue the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Dublin Road near Quinn's Road/Cherrington Roundabout. I received the following update recently:

*"Thanks for your query regarding the proposed installation of a pedestrian crossing at the referred to location (Dublin Road Near Quinn's Road/Cherrington, Shankill Village). The Council is still looking at all design options and is presently of the view that a possible crossing point on the Roundabout is a more feasible option. The Council is still committed to the installation of this project and is also looking at all funding options."*

### ◆ ALL WEATHER PITCH - WOODBROOK COLLEGE, BRAY

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update and to include timeframe on the new allweather pitch at Woodbrook College, Bray?

***Reply:*** The proposed all-weather pitch at Woodbrook College is part of the capital programme 2026-2028.

Meetings are ongoing with the principal of Woodbrook College with the most recent meeting taking place in August 2026. Several surveys have been completed.

Woodbrook College is preparing a planning application for a new school which is currently scheduled to be lodged in late 2026. This date is outside of our control and may be subject to change.

There are also plans for a new road and overbridge linking to the Old Conna lands which has brought in additional complexity to this project.

It is likely that the planning application or Part 8 for the new all-weather pitch will follow on once the planning application for a new school is lodged.

It is difficult to provide a timeframe for the proposed pitch at this stage but Councillors will be informed once a firm timeline is established.

***Owner:*** Senior Parks & Landscape Officer

### ◆ AGENDA ITEM 3.02 MEETING OF DÚN LAOGHAIRE AREA COMMITTEE 07 SEPTEMBER 2026 CARRICKMINES-SHANGANAGH RIVER FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

***Question:*** To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the Carrickmines–Shanganagh River Flood Relief Scheme?

***Reply:*** The Carrickmines–Shanganagh River Flood Relief Scheme continues to progress through the statutory planning process. The Council's consultants, EGIS, in collaboration with Water Services engineers, have been addressing the Further Information requested by An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP). ACP issued 50 requests for Further Information during the consultation process, many of which relate to environmental assessment matters.

Responses and supporting technical reports were submitted to ACP on 24 August 2026 as part of that process. The timeframe for a decision by ACP is not currently known; however, experience from similar schemes suggests that a decision may not be received until early 2027.

Councillor
CARRIE SMYTH
086 3835051
carriesmyth@cllr.dlrcoco.ie
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The Council continues to engage regularly with the OPW through the Loughlinstown Flood Relief Scheme Steering Group, where programme, technical matters and project funding are regularly reviewed. Recent discussions have also focused on managing the costs associated with responding to the Further Information requests and also progressing additional Transport Infrastructure Ireland related reporting requirements.

Subject to completion of the statutory planning process and receipt of the necessary approvals from the OPW and DLR's Project Governance Board, Water Services will be in a position to progress the scheme to construction procurement and delivery.

***Owner:*** Senior Engineer, Water Services

### ◆ ST. ANNE'S PARK – FOOTPATH AND ROAD SURFACE

I received representation from residents regarding the condition of the surface of the footpaths and section of road, which was not recently resurfaced within St. Anne's Park. I received the following replies from the Road Maintenance Section of dlr:
Footpaths - St. Anne's Park:

*"Thank you for your representation. The local inspector has informed me the required intervention has been added to his works list. However, it will be next year before the issue is addressed."*
and
**Road Surface - St. Anne's Park:**
*"Thanks for sending in your CRM408464 request regarding the road surface at St Anne's Park. The area engineer has indicated that St Anne's Park is on the Road Maintenance Programme for 2027 which will address the remaining resurfacing necessary."*

# WOODBROOK RESIDENTS SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS INFRASTRUCTURE PRESSURES

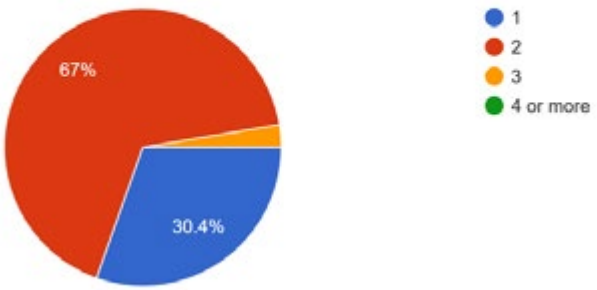
The Woodbrook Residents Association (WRA) has published the results of a survey carried out among residents of Woodbrook Phase 1, as part of its submission on the proposed residential development at the Woodbrook DART Gateway.

With no Central Statistics Office census data currently available for the area, all occupied households (approximately 250) were invited to participate during July and August 2026. A total of 116 households responded—almost 50%—representing more than 360 residents.

Resident-led surveys can provide valuable insight into the real population, service pressures and infrastructure needs of rapidly developing communities. For this reason, the WRA are also supporting Shanganagh Castle residents with a similar resident survey, helping to build an evidence base approach to local community needs.

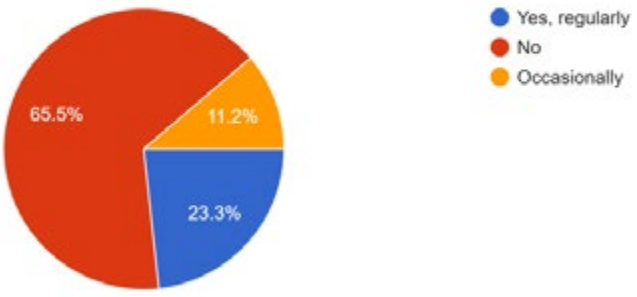
The results for Woodbrook estate highlight significant pressure on existing infrastructure and services as Woodbrook continues to grow. 67% of respondents said their household needs two parking spaces (see below).

**How many parking spaces would meet your household's needs?**
115 responses



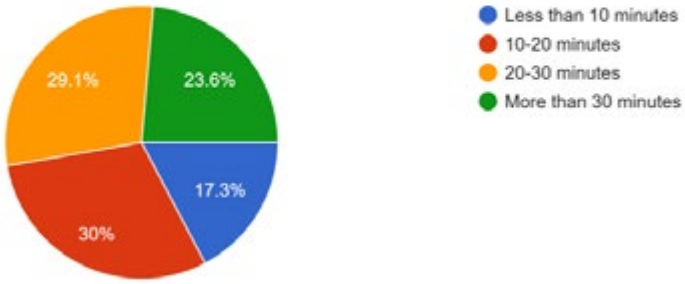

A total of 20.7% work outside public transport operating hours and 34.5% said their work requires a car. This highlights an important reality that is often overlooked in transport planning: not everyone works a 9-to-5 office job with convenient access to public transport. Many residents are employed in healthcare, emergency services, construction, trades, logistics, hospitality, home care, and other occupations that require travel throughout the day or to multiple locations. For these households, a car is not a lifestyle choice–it is an essential tool of employment.

**Does your work require the use of a car (reach clients, support services, delivery, taxi, etc.)**
16 responses




Healthcare is another major concern. 52.7% travel more than 20 minutes to see a GP. While for some this is a result of choosing to remain with the previous GP, a number of residents mentioned being on the waiting list for the local GP practices, which are reportedly full.

**Approximately how far do you travel to your GP?**
110 responses




Almost 70% of respondents who require childcare use creches outside Shankill because local provision is full.

These findings are particularly relevant to the proposed DART Station development, which would add significant numbers of homes to an already growing community. The WRA submission calls for; adequate parking, healthcare, childcare and education provision, community facilities, green spaces, EV charging, renewable energy and improved safety infrastructure to be delivered alongside the planned development.

The survey also found that 18.3% of respondents currently own an electric vehicle, while more than 55% are considering purchasing one within five years, which highlights the need to plan for future transport and energy requirements.

The WRA supports the principle of new housing in sustainable, well-connected locations. The concern is that housing growth may not be matched by the infrastructure needed to support a sustainable community.

As the WRA submission puts it: ***"Houses create neighbourhoods. Infrastructure creates communities."***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## SAGE

*by Patrick Davey*

Many of us will have heard recently of the El Niño [pronounced Ninyo] phenomenon and that we should expect weather extremes as a result, but why and what is it all about?

The winds that blow from East to West around the equator move the warm surface water of the equator westwards, causing ocean temperatures around Australia and East Africa to be around 8 degrees Celsius greater than those of South America and California. However, every 2–7 years this system goes into reverse, causing potentially catastrophic droughts in Australia and East Africa, major flooding in the USA, and preventing the formation of monsoons in South-South East Asia which are necessary for successful agriculture. Presently, there are signs that an El Niño is on the way and that, due to climate change, it is expected to be worse than past instances of this phenomenon. Reports expect crop failures and famine in regions such as East Africa and India. This will be exacerbated by the lack of fertiliser currently available due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. The World Food Program is already under stress due to a number of political conflicts around the world.

The situation is not likely to improve as instances of extreme weather are expected to become more common as a result of climate change. A feeling of despair is common when discussing climate change. Many feel as though resistance is futile, that their own sustainable practices would make no difference in the face of large corporations who do nothing to lessen their carbon emissions—this mindset aids those who profit from unsustainable business practices. It is necessary to lobby for the co-operation of political parties if we are to cope with climate changes long-term. There are a number of large-scale changes that could be implemented to combat climate change and prevent weather patterns from becoming even more extreme.

For instance, the electrical grid could be transformed by the installation of batteries which use no lithium and by the completion of the super-grid for long distance transmission using D.C., which provides a 30% increase in efficiency. This would allow for an inter-connected power system across Europe, meaning that as intense wind travels across the continent the wind power can be harnessed and converted into sustainably-farmed electricity, and subsequently shared across the grid. This would take the strain away from regions that experience less extreme weather patterns and make it easier to promote green energy across a larger area.

The Season of Creation will soon come to a close on 4th of October. We hope that the entire Community of Shankill, not just those who frequent our three parishes, will have received some inspiration on how to care for our Common Home, to look after our island's biodiversity, and to reduce the size of our individual carbon footprints. It is incumbent on each of us to ensure that our government understands that care for the climate must come first and that failure to do so will only exacerbate all the other problems voters care about.

# PLANNING NOTICES *compiled by Cllr. Jim Gildea*

*We are aware that some of the notices about planning applications and decisions are out of date by the time you receive your SCAN but we believe our readers would like to know what is going on in their area. We would like to remind you to keep a look out for new planning notices and, if you need further information, go to the Planning Office in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Hall, Marine Road and request to see the plans.*

*D26A/0008/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 09/01/2026 Further Info 19/08/2026*

**Amirite Limited, a site containing Barn Close, Barn Close Lodge, Beechlands and Shanganagh Castle, on the Shanganagh Road, Shankill, Dublin 18 (Protected Structure)**

The application site is bound by Shanganagh Road to the east, Florenceville (a protected structure) and Mill Lane to the north, and Broomfield Court and Seaview Lawn / Park residential areas to the west. The site contains Shanganagh Castle (a recorded archaeological monument - RMP Ref.: 026-031001), Beechlands House and Barn Close (both protected structures, RPS Ref.: No. 1784 and 1785 respectively).

Permission for: Demolition of the bungalow (Barn Close Lodge). Refurbishment of Beechlands House and Barn Close as 2 X 5 bed dwellings. Provision:29 X 2 storey 3 bed houses; 4 X 2 bed and 4 X 3 bed in a terrace of 4 X 3 storey duplexes. First-storey outdoor terraces are provided on the southern elevation of the duplexes; 31 apartments comprising 9 X 1 bed and 22 X 2 bed within a part 3 and part 4 storey apartment block. Retention and structural works to Shanganagh Castle and incorporation into a landscaped area which is publicly accessible. Vehicular and pedestrian access via an upgrade of the existing entrance from Shanganagh Road. The proposal includes alterations and improvements to Shanganagh Road, including provision of footpath and new pedestrian crossing to the south. A road reservation is provided for on the south eastern portion of the site to cater for the Six Year Road Objective to upgrade Shanganagh Road. The development also includes 73 car parking spaces (59 no. at surface level and 14 no. at ground level within the apartment building), 101 cycle parking spaces (26 no. at surface level and 31 no. at ground level within the apartment building and 44 spaces in free-standing secure enclosures). Infrastructural works include foul and surface water drainage, landscaping, provision of public and communal open space, boundary treatment, lighting, landscaping, bin stores and PV panels at roof level and all associated site works.

*D26A/0437/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 11/06/2026 Add. Info. Rec'd 28/08/2026*

**The Trustees & Select Vestry of St James' Church, Crinken Church (St James' Church), (A Protected Structure), Cork Little, Shankill, Bray, A98 VX58**

A terrace of three, two-story, three-bed houses with south-facing balconies with associated siteworks – including demolition of garden shed – all accessed from within the church grounds.

*D26A/0623/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 24/08/2026*

**Joe Lyon, 203, New Vale, Shankill, D18EA40**

The development will consist of: Modifications and alterations to the existing single storey semi-detached cottage that will include an extension by a reconfiguration of the existing extension at its south-east corner; The installation of 2 X new velux rooflight on the rear slope of the pitched roof above the original cottage; Construction of a rear single storey extension with small mezzanine level, incorporating a part flat and primarily pitched roof with 3 X velux roof lights on its north and south facing roof slope; widening of existing vehicular entrance and gravel driveway; associated site and ancillary works.

*D21A/0728/E Extension Of Duration Of Permission Date: 12/08/2026*

**Paul Sheridan, Shangarry, Falls Road, Rathmichael, Co. Dublin**

Permission for the demolition of existing two storey detached dwelling and construction of a single storey dwelling with a detached garage and separate detached playroom/home office as well as new sewage treatment system, extended access laneway together with all necessary ancillary works to facilitate this development.

*D26A/0638/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 26/08/2026*

**Midsal Homes Limited, A c. 0.84 Ha site comprising Rose Cottage, 26 Cherrywood Road, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18P4A7 and undeveloped lands to the east, which are separated from Rose Cottage by Loughlinstown River and are generally bound: to the north-east by residential prop**

Permission for development at a c. 0.84 Ha site comprising Rose Cottage and undeveloped lands to the east which are separated from Rose Cottage by Loughlinstown River and are generally bound: to the north-east by residential properties along Bray Road, to the south-east and south by the grounds of St. Columcille's Hospital and woodland, to the south-west by 25 Cherrywood Road, and to the north-west by residential properties along Cherrywood Road. Works are also proposed along Cherrywood Road comprising a new wastewater and watermain connection into the existing network; the removal of the existing vehicular entrance to Rose Cottage; the provision of a new entrance onto Cherrywood Road; the provision of a new controlled pedestrian crossing; the setting back of the boundary to widen the existing 1.8-metre-wide footpath up to 2.9-metres; and the localised narrowing of a portion of the carriageway along the site frontage from approximately 6-metres to 5.5-metres. The total site area of the development site and infrastructure works measures c. 0.87 Ha. The development will principally consist of the construction of a split-level part 2 & part 3 storey Nursing Home (including partial undercroft) comprising 78 X bedrooms and ancillary facilities (c. 3,898 sq m); and 2 X single storey, 2 X bed 'Senior Living' houses (c. 83 sq m each). The development also comprises: a road bridge over Loughlinstown River from the proposed new entrance along Cherrywood Road; 26 X car parking spaces comprising 18 X spaces at surface level and 8 X spaces within the partial undercroft; cycle parking spaces; motorcycle spaces; a bin store, cycle store and plant room (c. 109 sq m); ESB sub-station and switch room; communal winter gardens facing west and south-east; pumping station; lighting; lift overrun; PV panels; green roof; signage; boundary treatments; hard and soft landscaping; and all other associated site and development works above and below ground. The total gross floor area of the proposed development is c. 4,173 sq m. A Natura Impact Statement has been prepared in respect of the proposed development and will be submitted to the Planning Authority with this Planning Application.

*D26A/0640/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 26/08/2026*

**J. Coffey Property (Falmore) Ltd, Falmore, Falls Road, Shankill, D18K5P3**

Demolition of the existing 2 storey residential dwelling and associated ancillary structures (c. 626 sq.m). Construction of a 3-6 storey over basement residential development comprising 62 X units arranged in 4 X blocks. The proposed units include 15 X 3

bed townhouses, 25 X 1 bed apartments, 21 X 2 bed apartments and 1 X 3 bed apartment. All apartment units and houses are provided with private open space in the form of balconies/ terraces and gardens. Provision of 2 X site entrance points. A proposed entrance point is located at the current site access point for pedestrians/ cyclists/ vehicles, and a new pedestrian/ cyclist access point is provided in the form of a bridge at the northeast boundary of the site connecting the proposed development to Parc na Silla Rise. The development proposes 1,160 sq.m of public open space and 295 sq.m of communal amenity open space as landscaped areas throughout the site, including the provision of a play area. The proposal includes 44 X car parking spaces, 128 X bicycle parking spaces (94 X private, 4 X cargo bike spaces and 30 X external visitor spaces), secure bin stores for all units, provision of an ESB substation, hard and soft landscaping and all other associated site works and provision of services above and below ground on an overall site area of 1.06 ha.

*D26A/0654/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 01/09/2026*
**Whitefern Rock Limited, Coltsfoot, Dublin Road, Shankill, D18 F8W6**
Demolition of existing dwelling house (313.14m²) and removal of existing front boundary wall and for the construction of; A) New stone boundary walls with pedestrian access and new vehicular site entrance onto the Dublin road, and B) Construction of 14 X 3 storey townhouses in two separate blocks of 7 X units each, secure bicycle enclosure and all associated site works relevant to the development.

*D26A/0656/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 02/09/2026*
**Pauline Cullen, Saint Judes, Quarry Road, Shankill, D18VXP0**
The construction of a portal frame shelter (27.6m x 24.0m) – with semi-transparent polycarbonate roof (with a ridge height of 6.0m from ffl) – over part of the existing outdoor training arena, together with landscaping and all associated works

## PLANNING DECISIONS

*D26A/0478/WEB Grant Permission & Refuse Permission Date: 18/08/2026*
**Aoifa McCambridge and Arnaud Billon, Stonehaven, Lower Road, Shankill, Co. Dublin**
Permission sought for; 1) 1 off street parking to the front; 2) 2 X single storey flat roof extensions to the rear; 3) Replacement of the existing flat roofs with new raised flat roof.

*D26B/0378 Grant Permission Date: 21/08/2026*
**Michael O'Donovan, 9 Rathmichael Road (Journeys End), Shankill, Dublin 18**
The development will consist of the removal of two no roof lights to existing attic floor level to side of existing two-storey semi-detached dwelling. Construction of two new dormer style window structures into existing attic bedrooms to match the existing dormer windows style structures, provide new roof light into existing ensuite to existing attic floor level and associated site works

*D26A/0497/WEB Grant Permission Date: 24/08/2026*
**Winterbrook Homes (The Poplars) Ltd., The Poplars, Quinn's Road, Shankill, Dublin 18**
Permission for a development on a 4,300 m² site. The proposed development comprises amendments to the existing granted planning permission, D25A/0542/WEB and D25A/0004/WEB. The proposed amendments include removing the balustrades from the front, rear and side facades of the buildings on the first and second floors of both residential blocks. The application also includes an amendment to increase the number of bicycle parking spaces from 39 to 48 and to relocate several bicycle parking spaces to the rear of the townhouse, Block A, to allow for tree planting on the street front. Amendments also include the addition of a sidelight to the front door of Block A and minor changes to the internal front boundary walls of Blocks A & B.

## APPEALS NOTIFIED BY AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA

*D26A/0390/WEB 1st Party Appeal against Refusal of Permission Date: 27/05/2026*
**Forgebell Limited, Clontra House, Quinn's Road, Shankill, D18Y9H3 (A Protected Structure)**
(i) Provision of 6 X enclosed padel courts with ancillary structures for male & female changing, toilets, & storage; (ii) 20 X car parking spaces (incl. 2 X accessible spaces) & 14 cycle parking spaces accessed via a new entrance onto the driveway to Cluain House; (iii) All associated works, including footpaths, boundary treatments, gates, seating area, landscaping, drainage, fencing, & lighting necessary to facilitate the development. Clontra House is a protected structure (RPS Reference 1811).
Council Decision: Refuse permission
Appeal Lodged: 07/08/2026:

## APPEALS DECISION BY AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA

*D26A/0036/WEB Refuse Permission Decision Date: 12/08/2026*
**Forgebell Limited, Clontra House, Quinn's Road, Shankill, D18Y9H3 (A Protected Structure)**
(1) Change of use of Clontra House into a combined family hub to facilitate a short-term emergency accommodation development for homeless families and individuals; (2) All associated ancillary development works & a playground. Clontra House is a protected structure (RPS Reference 1811).
Council Decision: Refuse permission

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